Application No.: 10/025,274 Docket No.: CLFR:184USD1

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1-4. (Canceled)

5. (previously presented) A method of enhancing wound healing in an external wound, of an individual, comprising the steps of:

covering said wound with a wound coverage material, wherein said wound coverage material is impregnated with a therapeutically effective amount of cholesterol-containing cationic liposome, said liposome comprising at least one gene encoding a growth factor.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said impregnation of said wound coverage material is performed prior to covering said wound or subsequent to covering said wound.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said wound is selected from the group consisting of thermal trauma, chemical trauma, excisional trauma, surgical trauma and abrasion.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said wound coverage material is selected from the group consisting of human fetal amnion, human fetal chorion, human cadaver skin and synthetic skin.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein said growth factor is selected from the group consisting of growth hormone, insulin-like growth factor-I, keratinocyte growth factor, fibroblast growth factor, epidermal growth factor, platelet derived growth factor and transforming growth factor-β.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said growth factor is insulin-like growth factor-I (IGF-I) and the concentration of said gene encoding IGF-I in the liposomes is about 2.2 μg/10 μl liposomes.

11-24. (Canceled)

25. (New) A method of treating a hypermetabolic response in an individual suffering a thermal injury, comprising the steps of:

(a) covering the thermal injury with a wound coverage material;

(b) administering to the thermal injury an effective amount of a cholesterol-containing cationic liposome comprising at least one nucleic acid encoding a growth factor, wherein the hypermetabolic response to thermal injury is attenuated.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the hypermetabolic response is a loss of lean body mass.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the hypermetabolic response is a compromised immune response.

28. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein administration of the cholesterol containing liposome is by injection on or into the thermal injury site.

29. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein administration of the liposome is by injection into the wound coverage material.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the injection is before or after thermal injury coverage.

31. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein said wound coverage material is a fetal membrane.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the fetal membrane is fetal amnion or fetal chorion.

33. (New) The method of claim 32, wherein the fetal membrane is fetal amnion.

34. (New) The method of claim 31, wherein the fetal membrane is human.

35. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the growth factor is selected from the group consisting of growth hormone, insulin-like growth factor-I, keratinocyte growth factor, fibroblast growth factor, epidermal growth factor, platelet derived growth factor and transforming growth factor-β.

36. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the growth factor is insulin-like growth factor-I (IGF-I).

37. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the growth factor is keratinocyte growth factor.

38. (New) The method of claim 35, wherein the growth factor is a growth hormone.

39. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein the thermal injury is a second degree burn, a deep second degree burn, or a third degree burn.

40. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the thermal injury is a second degree burn.

41. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the thermal injury is a deep second degree burn.

42. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein the thermal injury is a third degree burn.